

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 and 21-30 stand rejected and Claims 12-20 have been allowed.

Applicants thank the Examiner for noting that Claims 12-20 are allowable. Applicants respectfully request that Claims 1-11 and 21-30 be canceled without prejudice.

Applicants have included herein new dependent Claims 31-38. Therefore, Claims 12-20 and 31-38 remain pending in the patent application. Applicants believe that the amendments herein to the patent application do not add new matter to it.

CLAIMS 31-38

Applicants respectfully point out that new dependent Claims 31-38 have been included as part of the patent application and that they depend from allowable independent Claim 12. Since new dependent Claims 31-38 depend from allowable independent Claim 12, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 31-38 are allowable over the cited references.

35 U.S.C. §103 Rejections

Applicants respectfully assume that Claims 1-9 and 21-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hall et al., U.S. Patent Number 5,898,831 (hereinafter Hall), in view of Casden, U.S. Patent Number 6,828,902 (hereinafter Casden). Additionally, Claims 10, 11, 29 and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hall in view of Casden, and further in view of Win et al, U.S.

Patent Number 6,128,142. Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 1-11 and 21-30 have been canceled without prejudice herein, thereby rendering these rejections moot.

CONCLUSION

For all the reasons advanced above, Applicants respectfully submit that pending Claims 12-20 and 31-38 are in condition for allowance and that action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas M. Catale", written over a horizontal line.

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